THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) The present status of the Agro and Rural Industries in relation to production and employment generation upto 2001-02, are as under :—

	Employment (Persons in lakhs)	Production (Rs. in crores)
Khadi	8.48	416.69
Village Industries	54.16	7140.52

(b) As a strategy for the growth of the agro and rural industries, the Government has decided to continue the Rural Employment Generation Programme through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission so as to generate additional employment opportunities from 2.0 million persons in the 10th Five Year Plan.

Khadi artisans in Andhra Pradesh

1545. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Khadi artisans in Andhra Pradesh as on date, district-wise; and

(b) the details of the welfare measures Government have extended to these artisans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) The number of Khadi artisans in Andhra Pradesh as on date district-wise, is given at Statement (*See* below)

(b) The Khadi programme is regulated by a set of certification rules, under which provisions have been made for Artisans Welfare Fund and Artisans Benefit Fund for the welfare of spinners and weavers engaged in Khadi programme, which is applicable for Andhra Pradesh also. In addition, 'Khadi Package' announced by the Government on 14.05.2001 *inter-alia* provides for Insurance cover to Khadi artisans in the country.

Statement

District wise number of Khadi Artisans in Andhra Pradesh

Sl.	Name of the district	No. of Khadi Artisans
1	Srikakulam	5909
2	Vizianagaram	1475
3	Vishakhapatnam	627
4	East Godavari	3088
5	West Godavari	371
6	Karimnagar	2260
7	Ranga Reddy and Hyderabad	975
8	Kurnool	541
9	Ananthapur	1736
10	Cuddapah	504
11	Mahaboonagar	639
12	Guntur	1102
13	Prakasam	30
14	Nalgonda	54
15	Krishna	278
16	Medak	2866
	Total :	22459

Potential of ARIs in Rajasthan

1546. SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed potential of the agro industries in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;